

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Expansion of the Pirna-Sonnenstein Compound	DATE DISTR.	13 July 1955
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The Pirna-Sonnenstein compound of the Main Administration for Industrial Requirements is to be expanded so that in the future its area will be about three times the area now occupied. According to plans advocated by Dipl. Ing. Brunolf Baade and to be presented to the Soviet authorities during Baade's visit to Moscow from mid-April to early June 1955, the expanded Pirna-Sonnenstein site is to serve not only as the seat of the research and development center of the Main Administration for Industrial Requirements but also as an airfield suitable for the catapulting of fast jet-propelled aircraft.¹ Baade's project for expanding the Pirna-Sonnenstein plateau into an airfield is, in fact, the resumption of a project of the former German Air Force which, during World War II, had plans for establishing an airfield near the present location of the Pirna-Sonnenstein compound. The following preparations for the expansion of the compound are now under way:

- a. The Main Administration is buying large sections of land along State Road 172 and along the secondary road branching off of State Road 172 at a point close to the Pirna-Sonnenstein compound and leading to Struppen. The land being purchased by the Main Administration for Industrial Requirements is located on both sides of the secondary road mentioned. The road itself is closed to civilian traffic.
- b. The course of State Road 172 will be changed in such a way that the altered road will not pass through the expanded Pirna-Sonnenstein compound. In its present form, State Road 172, coming from Dresden and going through Pirna, passes the present Pirna-Sonnenstein compound in a serpentine path, one bend of which touches the compound and then leads off toward Koenigstein. Most of the serpentine section is located in the area which is to be part of the expanded compound.

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Construction of an alternate road was therefore begun in May 1955. This alternate road (see annexed sketch) will cut off that part of State Road 172 which leads through the land to be added to the Pirna-Sonnenstein compound. The alternate road will become part of the new State Road so that no part of it will lead through the expanded compound. The alternate road under construction branches off of the first bend of the serpentine section near the Pirna hospital and leads back to State Road 172 near a point between Vorwerk Mannewitz and Krietzschwitz.

2. In late May 1955 construction of the two halls, ZII and VO, was in full progress.²
3. In early May 1955, work was begun at the Pirna-Sonnenstein compound on the construction of four underground halls. These halls are to be located between Sonnenstein castle and the old church in the Pirna-Sonnenstein compound. The halls are to be 25 meters wide and 30 meters long. In late May 1955 blasting of the rock to a depth of 45 meters for two halls was begun by special brigades of Wismut AG. The blasting is done at night and the blasted rock is removed during the day with the aid of special Czech dredges and carried to the sandstone quarries near Jessen. The underground halls are to be provided with steel structures and roofs made of reinforced concrete about 1.5 meters thick. The walls of the halls are to be lined with synthetic material so that they will be waterproof and the halls will remain completely dry. The purpose of the halls is not yet known. It is believed that they are to serve as recipients for fuel.
4. All work in the Pirna-Sonnenstein compound is performed by Bau-Union Sued of the Ministry of the Interior, with the exception of the special Wismut brigades mentioned. The blueprinting for this work is done in a special department of the Central Planning Office in Dresden under department head Brandt (fnu).
5. The annexed sketch shows³:
 - (1) Territory called Mockethaler Grund across the Elbe opposite the Pirna-Sonnenstein compound.
 - (2) Elbe River. Arrow points in the direction of Dresden.
 - (3) Pirna proper.
 - (4) Present course of State Road 172 from Dresden to Koenigstein and Bad Schandau.
 - (5) School for noncommissioned officers of the Volkspolizei air wing unit guarding the compound.
 - (6) Pirna-Sonnenstein castle, now the administration building of the compound.
 - (7) Approximate location of hall ZII.
 - (8) Approximate location of hall VO.
 - (9) Approximate location of halls constructed in 1953.
 - (10) Approximate location of underground halls to be constructed.
 - (11) The old compound church.
 - (12) Present fence of the Pirna-Sonnenstein compound, not including the military buildings.
 - (13) Residential blocks for aircraft specialists.
 - (14) Vorwerk Mannewitz.
 - (15) Territory purchased and being purchased by the Main Administration for Industrial Requirements for the expansion of the compound.
 - (16) Secondary road to Cunnersdorf barred to traffic.
 - (17) Secondary road branching off of State Road 172 and leading to Struppen, barred to traffic.
 - (18) Approximate location of Pirna-Copitz suburb.
 - (19) New part of State Road 172 under construction, eliminating the serpentine section of it.
 - (20) Approximate location of the new fence of the expanded compound so as to include the residential quarters. Exact data are not yet available.

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Comment. The location of buildings within the compound is marked only roughly and without claim to accuracy.

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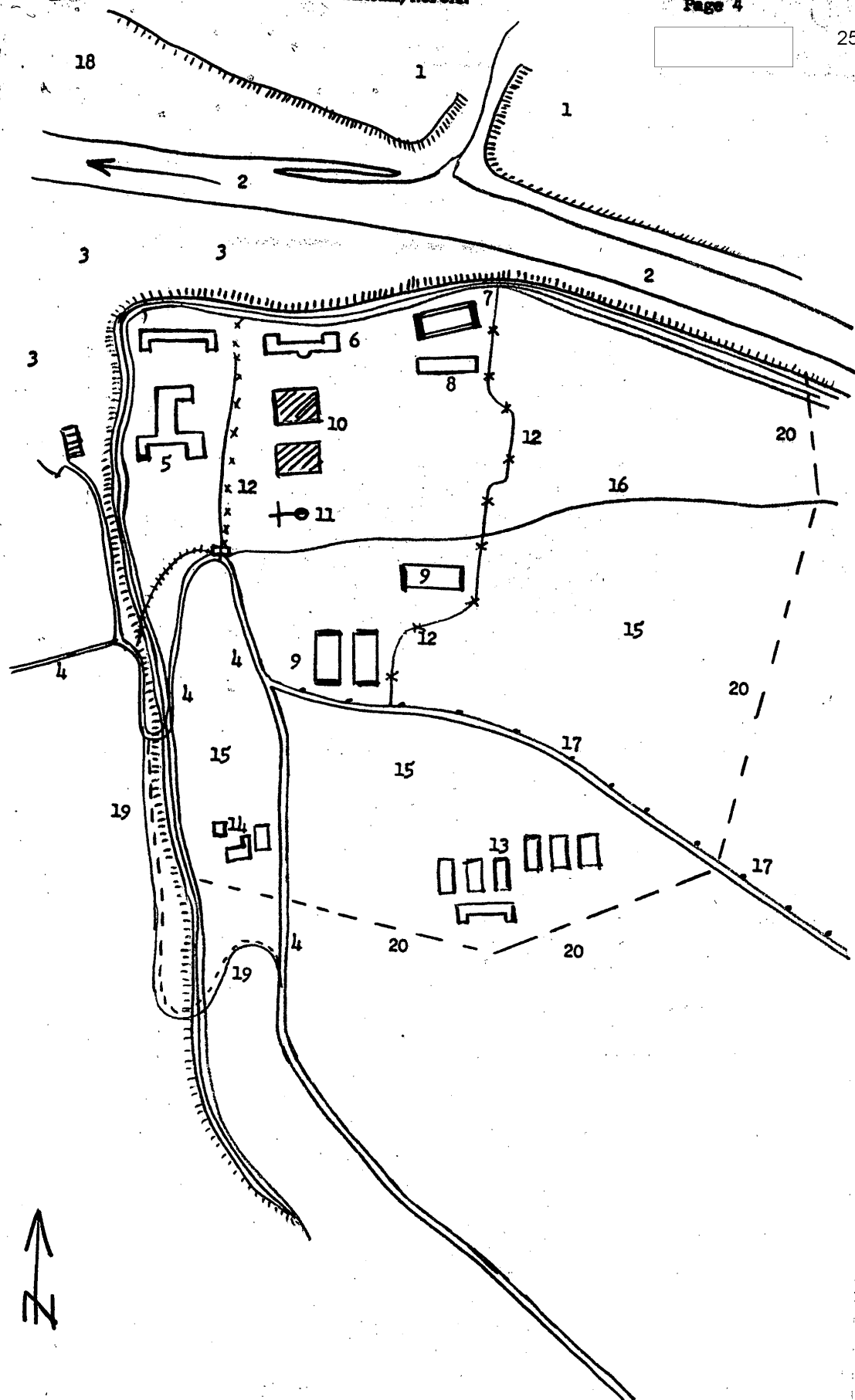
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